

# MIGRANT

July 2014 Issue 18

MAGAZINE



## Kentucky Migrant Education Program

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### Contacts:

#### Judy Littleton

State Migrant Education Director  
502-564-3791, ext. 4027  
judith.littleton@education.ky.gov

#### Christina Benassi

Identification and Recruitment  
Coordinator  
502.564.3791, ext. 4025  
christina.benassi@education.ky.gov

#### Heather Rhorer

Migrant Consultant  
502.564.3791, ext. 4003



## Certificate of Eligibility (COE) questions to ponder

By Christina Bernassi

During May, several different types of Certificate of Eligibility (COE) questions needed clarification. The following is a discussion of the different types of questions asked of recruiters to determine if there were errors on the COE or not.

As a recruiter, when you find a family that is looking specifically for qualifying work but did not obtain qualifying work, what do you do? Some people are looking at the last qualifying move to see if that move qualifies; others are using credible evidence or prior history. Which way is correct?

The answer is both. Both ways are correct; however, as a migrant recruiter, you want to ensure that the family has the longest eligibility time frame as possible. You will want to try qualifying the family on the most recent move IF they are looking specifically for qualifying work.

If they came looking for any work and did not obtain qualifying work, then you have to look at the last qualifying move. Also, if you use credible evidence, remember the comment must be from a third-party person. This person is not a brother, sister or any person that is directly involved with the family. It could be a farmer. Getting a quote from the farmer stating that he/she could not hire the worker because they already hired their quota is an example of credible evidence.

Another type of credible evidence is the weather. If a bad storm occurred and the ground was too wet to plant; then that would be credible evidence. Understanding what credible evidence is will help you as you write your comments on your COE.

Some comments are no longer needed

on the COE. If you recruit a family that has been in your school district more than a year, simply put this type of comment on the Basic Interview Pattern (BIP). Finding families in a timely manner has greatly improved across the migrant programs. Remember it is your responsibility as recruiters to find every eligible migrant family. That is no easy task! Putting up flyers, being visible and going door to door are some ways to find and recruit migrant families. A few recruiting rules must be remembered: First, unfortunately, if a baby did not make the move, the baby cannot qualify for the Migrant Education Program. If he/she was born after the Qualifying Arrival Date (QAD), then he/she cannot qualify. These children can be mentioned in the comments section, but they are not to be given a MIS2000 ID number. One idea is to take note of these children in the event that the family moves again. This child may qualify then; or if the family is part of the re-interview process, documentation will exist that this child did not qualify at the time of the COE.

Secondly, to join moves can be tricky. When the worker moves, they must have the intention that the children will eventually join him/her.

If they do not have that intention, then the children may not qualify. Also, to join moves, as a rule of thumb, the family needs to be together within 12 months or less. However, there are a few situations where the state Identification and Recruitment (ID&R) coordinator listens to the recruiter and may qualify the children who have joined their parents after a year. These are case-by-case basis.

# OME presentations at NASDME Conference are now available online

The Office of Migrant Education (OME) provided six presentations at the 2014 National Migrant Education Conference, April 6-9, in San Antonio, Texas.

The presentations are available at [RESULTS.ed.gov](https://results.ed.gov). Please see below for descriptions of all the sessions.

**1. OME Update: what's New and How State and Local MEP Projects Impact the Big Picture.** Presented by Lisa Ramírez and Ed Monaghan on Monday, April 7, 2014

*The presenters provided information about "What's New in the MEP," as well as the continuous improvement cycle specific to local and State MEPs.*

**2. Common Findings from OME's MEP Monitoring.** Presented by Rachel Crawford on Monday, April 7, 2014

This session reviewed some of the most common areas of non-compliance found by the Office of Migrant Education (OME) during MEP monitoring reviews.

**3. Making the Tough Eligibility Determinations.** Presented by Patricia Meyertholen on Monday, April 7, 2014

This session reviewed moderate to difficult eligibility scenarios that MEP recruiters often face. Scenarios used in this session were taken from the [RESULTS.ed.gov](https://results.ed.gov) website from Module 6 of the National ID&R Curriculum, Determining Eligibility in Difficult Cases, and from the MEP Policy Q&As also located on the

RESULTS website.

**4. State Service Delivery Plans and Program Evaluations – What Local Projects Should Know.** Presented by Rachel Crawford and Ed Monaghan on Tuesday, April 8, 2014

The presenters provided ideas and tools for local MEPs, so that they might measure both their implementation and performance results, and subsequently analyze data for continuing or modifying current services and activities.

**5. MSIX: An Update on Its Status and Why It's Valuable to Recruiters.** Presented by Patricia Meyertholen, Patrick Keim, Josh Rombot, and Wahid Sadek on Tuesday, April 8, 2014

*This session provided tips and strategies for recruiters on ways to use MSIX to assist in their Identification and Recruitment efforts. This session is also available at <https://msix.ed.gov> through the Trainers' Corner.*

**6. MSIX: Lo que deben saber los padres migrantes.** Presented by Patricia Meyertholen and Rachel Crawford on Wednesday, April 9, 2014

This session, presented in Spanish, provided an overview of MSIX and explained the system's purpose, uses, and benefits for migrant families

## Everything you need to know about bilingual and ESL education, but were afraid to ask

By Paula Gee, Monroe County

I recently attended the National Association of State Directors of Migrant Education (NASDME) Conference in San Antonio, Texas, and took part in a session entitled, "Everything You Need to Know about Bilingual and ESL Education, But Were Afraid to Ask." The presenter was Dr. Kristin Grayson, an education associate with Intercultural Development Research Associates (IDRA). Dr. Grayson began talking about how some individuals believe that both these programs mean the same thing. As we know this is not true. Knowing the difference is how we can guide individuals to pick the proper education. She explained that in an English as a Second Language (ESL) classroom, all curricula are written in English and the teacher only speaks English. She stressed that it is vital that we do not make the student

feel singled out or awkward. In a bilingual education classroom, all the students in the class speak the same language. The teacher also speaks the language. The procedure of how a bilingual class generally works is that the teacher teaches in both English and the students' native language, eventually teaching only in English. She explained that a bilingual class has a goal and it is to have the students eventually speak both languages fluently and for them to hold on to their culture.

As we all know as educators, both ESL and bilingual education classes are a good way to learn English. Students in each one of these programs generally do well learning the English language. In public schools what type of class students take most likely depends on which resources are available in their school. For adults, the class that

they feel most comfortable in is the one they should choose. While some like having a teacher who can speak to them in their native language, others find being totally immersed in their new language helps them learn faster. It is an individual decision.

During the session, Dr. Grayson also explained to different types of programs used to improve English language proficiency, and services for interpretation and translation. Additionally, multiple laws also were reviewed to ensure that ESL and bilingual students are receiving everything they need and that all obligations are being met by schools and teachers. Dr. Grayson also gave her audience time to ask questions and allowed anyone who wanted to add to the conversation during her presentation to do so.

# First Lady helps kick off Summer Food Service Program

First Lady Jane Beshear joined Lexington Mayor Jim Gray and others in June to kick off the Summer Food Service Program (SFSP) in Kentucky. The event was held in Castlewood Park in Lexington.

This was one of three events held across the state to mark the beginning of the annual summer feeding program.

During the school year, more than a half-million Kentucky students eat breakfast, lunch or both meals at school – often for free or at a reduced price.

They count on these meals to keep their stomachs full and their minds active. When school is out for the summer, many children do not have access to healthy, nutritious meals. Lack of nutrition during the summer months may set up a cycle for poor performance once school begins again and make children more prone to

illness and other health issues. The SFSP is designed to fill that nutrition gap and make sure children get the nutritious meals they need.

This summer, 1,600 sites across 105 Kentucky counties will provide more than 2 million breakfasts, lunches and snacks to more than 20,000 of Kentucky's neediest children.

Children 18 years old and younger are eligible for the free, nutritious meals.

To locate a feeding site, call the National Hunger Hotline at 1-866-3HUNGRY or 1-866-348-6479.

More than 150 businesses, schools, local government agencies, churches and community organizations sponsor feeding sites in support of the Summer Food Service Program in Kentucky.

The program is federally funded by the United States Department of Agriculture and is administered by the Kentucky Department of Education, Division of School and Community Nutrition.



## What should I tell parents at Parent Advisory Council (PAC) meetings? Check out what Bourbon County does

*By: Christina Benassi*

Friday, May 2, was a beautiful day for a Parent Advisory Council (PAC) meeting in Bourbon County. They met at *Riviera Maya*, a local Mexican restaurant. One of the waiters was a migrant father, and his wife attended the PAC meeting. Teresa Blevins, Dinorah Souleyrette and Sarah Young welcomed the mothers that arrived at the meeting.

The migrant parents in Bourbon County choose lunch time to meet because their children were in school and they could use that time to get away.

The Bourbon County migrant staff provided guest speakers from the children's schools to discuss important events like graduation dates and K-PREP testing to the parents. They also had the local nurse come and talk to the parents about immunizations. At their last PAC meeting, the parents specifically asked for information on immunizations, so the migrant staff

made that happen.

The nurse went over a child's school career and when he/she would need to get immunizations. She noted that if your child never received certain immunizations; they can start at any time. The nurse also mentioned information on school physicals. Many students play sports and physicals are only good for one year. It was recommended to those that attended that if their child wants to play sports that he/she should complete the physical before tryouts.

The nurse and migrant staff mentioned that they would make copies of the forms for the parents so the child wouldn't need to repeat the physical. It also was suggested to those that attend that if their child plays sports in the summer and has a physical then, they should make a copy of it to give to the school in August when school starts.

At the end of the PAC meeting,

the migrant staff listed the summer dates and field trips that will occur. Career Craze was the one the parents were talking about for middle school students; the program gives students the opportunity to attend a college and take classes relating to a certain career of his/her choice.

Staff from the Bourbon County Migrant Education Program also shared with parents that home tutoring started June 11.

At the end of each meeting, the parents completed a survey to provide information for the migrant staff to use in planning the next meeting. The survey asked for input on times, locations and events. From the survey, the Bourbon County Migrant Program realized the parents wanted the students to learn about bowling. They are now planning a field trip to the bowling alley. They also learned that the parents like to meet at lunch time.



# What should I do with high school students in the summer?

Summer is a time when students should be out having fun, but due to the summer slide that occurs, we know that students also need to be learning during the summer as well.



Advocates need to think of a way students can have fun and learn while doing it. For high school students, the best way to do this is by teaching real life situations. Teach them something they can use after they graduate. Russellville Independent and Logan County's

Migrant Education Program recently did just that.

The high school students were very lucky to have some outstanding tutors and advocates help them. Aubrietta Woodall is a retired middle school English teacher of thirty years. Bonnie Herndon is a retired Spanish teacher and the advocate for Russellville Independent and her daughter Sydney recently graduated high school and had a lot to offer. On June 18

I visited their program and saw Sydney talking to the students about different scholarships and how to apply. The high school students did not realize that \$1,300 to \$2,600 is the average cost of the meal plan. The students Kentucky Educational Excellence Scholarship (KEES) money could help defer some of that cost. Students receive money based upon their GPA, ACT scores, and Advanced Placement exam scores.

The high school students also had the opportunity to begin writing their resumes. The students were able to view the Logan County High School's valedictorian resume as an example.

Although this is a tedious task, it is very crucial to start building one so the students understand the importance of selling themselves. I heard one of the advocates tell a student that he needs to enroll in more clubs. This will help him "beef" up his resume. Another student, I assisted by adding work experience to their resume. We talked about adding the time frame that he completed a certain task. This particular young man worked milking cows in the summer and worked with tobacco in the fall.

Once the students wrote up a rough draft, they were going to type them up and keep them for use in the future. By providing these types of opportunities for the students, they will be better prepared for their future.

## A healthy lesson for elementary students

Wednesday, June 18, the Logan County and Russellville Independent Migrant Education Programs participated in the Summer Food Service Program at the Logan County Public Library. After eating their nutritious lunch, Community Action member, Melody Richards presented a program called I'm Too Good for Drugs to the elementary students.

Each student received a handout with a child whose heart, lungs and brain were visible. The students had to color the sheet and trace the words. Richards went over the importance of each of the body parts.

She told the students to put their hands into a fist and then put it next to their chest.

This represents the size of their heart. She also had them breathe in to show how their lungs fill up with air. After the students colored the sheet they participated in a short

game aimed at helping them learn how to make healthy food choices. Richards would call out different food options – for example, an apple – and the students who thought it was healthy would stand up.

This got the students moving and thinking at the same time. It was a great way for students to learn about what is healthy for them.

A lesson such as this could be adopted for any migrant program.

After the students eat lunch, talk about the body parts that are affected by the food that they eat.

Then you can have them stand up when you mention healthy activities like running, walking, swimming and eating fruits.

The more mini-lessons a student can participate in the better they will retain the information.



# Collaborating with the public library

## An adventure at the Logan County Public Library

By Christina Benassi

Logan County and Russellville Independent have been working in collaboration with the Logan County Public Librarian Carole Ann Faulkner. The students participate in the reading program and other programs throughout the summer. Typically Wednesday is the day that the students come to the library to participate. On Wednesday, June 18, the migrant students had the opportunity to listen to artist and bilingual storyteller Thomas Freese. He entertained the students by telling a story about a cat while creating a cat out of origami. The students were very engaged and excited to be participating in the activity. In the afternoon Freese showed the students how to make pop-up greeting cards. He showed them several examples. The students were very excited.

Freese, who studied in Mexico, has told stories for over fifteen years. He was an artist-in-residence with the Kentucky Arts Council and has told stories at bookstores, churches, public libraries and at the Corn Island Storytelling Festival. He has published several books including: *Shaker Ghost Stories from Pleasant Hill, KY*, *Haunted Battlefields of the South* and *Spirits and Angels*. Freese was a singer and dancer for ten years with the Pleasant Hill Singers at Shakertown in Kentucky. He is currently a member of the Kentucky Arts Council's Art Education Artists Roster, and is a member of the Kentucky Storytelling Association. To learn more about Thomas Freese, check at his website at [www.ThomasLFreese.com](http://www.ThomasLFreese.com)



## Migrant student chosen to participate in youth leadership event

A special honor is being bestowed on a Robertson County migrant student. Maria Delgado was selected to represent Robertson County School at the 34<sup>th</sup> Central Kentucky Council on Youth Leadership Conference as the Robertson County School Youth Salute Candidate.

The Central Kentucky Council on Youth Leadership is designed to honor high school juniors in the

community who have maintained high scholastic averages and demonstrated leadership ability.

A professional photo portrait session of Maria, awarded by Holifield Photography, is on display with other candidates at Fayette Mall and at central Kentucky Walmart's as well as at area schools and other venues.

An article on Maria's accomplishment was published in the [Maysville Ledger Independent](#) newspaper.



Maria Delgado

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# 2014 KY Migrant Scholarship Award

By Michael Hay

It is with distinct pleasure we announce that the recipient of the 2014 KY Migrant Scholarship is Gloria Morales, a student in the Henderson County Migrant Education Program (MEP). The scholarship is sponsored by the Foundation for the Tri State Community in Ashland, Ky. As the recipient of the scholarship Gloria has been awarded a \$1,000 scholarship that will be disbursed over her first two semesters at Murray State University, where she plans to study nursing.

Gloria is a very conscientious student who hasn't shied away from taking challenging courses such as Anatomy and Physiology, Chemistry, Advanced Biology, Health Sciences and AP Government during high school. Her unweighted GPA is an impressive 3.71 and she is ranked in the top 12 percent of her class. She has been an honor roll student during all four years of high school, and is a member of the National Honor Society. Additionally, she is a member of the high school's Health Occupations Students of America (HOSA) and she also donates time to the Salvation Army in her community.

Gloria and her family are no strangers to hard work and perseverance. Raised by a single migrant mother who works in a chicken processing plant, Gloria and her sisters help carry the burden of looking out for one another and

working part-time jobs to help their mother with bills and expenses.

Gloria works at a local nursing care facility where she is learning great skills that will help her as she dreams of a career in nursing. This fall, she will join her older sister, Eugenia – a former KY MEP Scholarship recipient as well -- at Murray State University. Their younger sister will continue high school in Henderson.

Gloria sees many positive aspects of having an education beyond high school, as she expressed in her application essay: "Education beyond high school will benefit me by gaining more knowledge, (becoming) wiser, helping me develop critical thinking, broaden my perspective, and become a better and more active citizen. It will also help me give back to my community with the skills that I will acquire with a high education."



*Gloria Morales*

Thank you to Henderson's MEP staff – Midge Stribling and Erna Hargis; and to the Webster County MEP staff – Sherill Tanner and Lori Gonzalez -- for their dedication and service; and to Cindy Sasser and her team at the Western KY Regional MEP for their support to their district MEP's staff, students and families.

There is no doubt that Gloria will achieve her dreams and will make a difference in the lives of others.

## Special Delivery

Laney Deckard (Central Regional Recruiter) delivered two healthy baby girls, June 12, 2014 around 8:00 a.m.! Caroline Hay Deckard (7 pounds, 14 ½ ounces) and Cadence Wheat Deckard (5 pounds, 9 ¼ ounces).





**Upcoming  
Dates to  
Remember**

STATE PAC August 23, 2014

Fall Academy Bowling Green, KY September 17-19, 2014

NASDME, Seattle, Wash. March 22- March 25, 2015

**ID&R Center @**

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- Pre-Conference: November 19, 2014
- Dissemination Event: November 20-21, 2014

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